

# **FATALITY ALERT**

## **– PRELIMINARY INFORMATION –**

**BCFSC #2021-09-28**

On September 28th, a worker was fatally injured when the excavator he was operating tipped over while constructing a back spar trail. This incident occurred on Vancouver Island.

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of the deceased and our sympathies to all those affected by this incident.

This is the fifth harvesting fatality of 2021.

This incident is still under investigation and details are still to be determined.

**The following safety information should be reviewed to help prevent further serious incidents:**

1. Heavy equipment can become unstable on all types and steepness of terrain. Holes, stumps or unstable ground can cause machinery to tip over.
2. Discuss machine stability challenges during pre-work meetings and conduct a block assessment to identify stability hazards. [See BCFSC's Steep Slope Logging Resource Package for more information.](#)
3. As part of machine inspections, take a close look at seat belts, guarding, cab protection (ROPs and FOPs) and escape hatches which help protect operators when incidents occur.
4. Emergency Response Plans (ERPs) and drills should include equipment roll-over incidents which can be very challenging.